

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 08750 301944Z

21

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /029 W

----- 079228

R 301516Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6117

UNCLAS LAGOS 8750

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, NI

SUBJ: NIGERIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET SEEN STOTSKY BUT HAS BEEN AWARE OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS CHANGE FROM GENERAL TO RESTRICTIVE SPECIFICATIONS. WE THUS HAD REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH PERMSEC SALEH BUT HE HAS BEEN EITHER BURIED IN MEETINGS OR OUT OF LAGOS. OUR PRESENTATION TO HIM WILL STRESS THAT NIGERIA WILL LIMIT ITSELF SEVERELY BY OPTING FOR OLDER TYPE TECHNOLOGY. MOREOVER, ACTION CHANGING SPECIFICATIONS HAS EFFECT OF DISCOURAGING TOP FOREIGN FIRMS, LEADING TO LESS COMPETITION, HIGHER COSTS AND GENERALLY NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT.

2. AVAILABLE EVIDENCE INDICATES SOME HONEST CONCERN IN MINISTRY THAT TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM MOVING TOO FAST TO MORE ADVANCED STAGE WHICH MIGHT RESULT IN EVEN BIGGER COMMUNICATIONS MESS. MINISTRY'S ENGINEERS AND TECHNICAL STAFF FAVOR MORE ADVANCED SYSTEMS, BUT CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION APPEARS TO COME FROM DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS LASODE AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING AMON. IFOLDER HARD WIRED LOGIC SYSTEM IS USED IT WOULD BENEFIT ITT'S BELL OF BELGIUM SUBSIDIARY AND L.M. ERICSSON OF SWEDEN. JAPANESE MIGHT ALSO BE SUPPLIERS BUT WE NOT SURE AT THIS TIME.

3. WILL REPORT ON NEW DEVELOPMENTS AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

CAHILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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